

# GREENBELT News Review

An Independent Newspaper

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15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1887

DECEMBER 29, 2005

## Planning Staff Briefs City Council On Greenbelt Station Development

by Thomas X. White

### Tentative Planning Review Schedule

January 4 – Greenbelt Advisory Planning Board (APB) review of CSP.

January 9 – Greenbelt City Council considers and accepts APB report on recommended city conditions applicable to the revised CSP and update on development planning schedule.

January 18 – APB review of the DSP for the South Core development.

January 23 – Council action on city staff recommendations applicable to the revised CSP and DSP for Greenbelt Station development.

At a December 21 council worksession Celia Craze, director of the city's Planning and Community Development Department and members of the planning staff provided briefing on the current state of negotiations between city staff and Greenbelt Station developers. The briefing concerned the revised Conceptual Site Plan (CSP) for the planned development and the more specific Detailed Site Plans (DSP) for the Greenbelt Station South Core development.

The latter plans are tracking alongside the CSP as it is being considered by the Prince George's Planning Board staff. All members of council and representatives of the Greenbelt Station development team attended the worksession.

Craze characterized the briefing as a "prepping" for council's formal consideration of the upcoming plans prior to the Prince George's Planning Board consideration early in the New Year. Craze said that December 2005 and January 2006 have been designated "Greenbelt Station" months for her office because of the intense review activity taking place for the development, especially for the development's South Core.

City staff has been consulting with both the Greenbelt Station

development team and Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission staff on the proposed plans. Craze wanted council to be fully aware of remaining issues that could require difficult decisions, what she referred to as a "set of staff conditions that will likely be evolving over the next few weeks."

Craze also provided a tentative schedule for planning review milestones that could unfold in January, assuming that the Greenbelt Station developers support a continuance for the Prince

George's County Planning Board's consideration of the CSP to January 26.

In terms of the ongoing discussions and negotiations with the Greenbelt Station development team, Craze noted that planning staff has been trying to pay attention to development issues raised previously by council, notably, "Housing choices (style, rental versus owned and affordability), environmental issues and available recreation areas. Some of those issues are becoming inflexible."

### Staff Conditions

City staff provided council with its latest draft of the "Staff Conditions" document on December 21. This document listed 61 proposed City of Greenbelt positions applicable to the revised CSP. The focus of discussion, however, was on the so-called difficult issues.

The first of these issues dealt with a so-called "Dernoga" plan for the South Core portion of the plan. Apparently County Council Chairperson Thomas Dernoga has suggested a revision to the CSP for the residential portion of the South Core plan east of the proposed connector road, connecting the South Core with the North Core

See COUNCIL, page 6

## Council Debates Historic Status Of Greenbelt Middle School

by Jennifer Sciubba

On Wednesday, December 14 a debate over the importance of history became heated during a Greenbelt City Council worksession called by Jose Morales, the school board member responsible for construction plans. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss plans for the historic part of Greenbelt Middle School when a new building is constructed together with a new elementary school. The planning for a two-school complex is difficult enough but becomes even more complicated when historical areas come into play. The challenge is determining what exactly gives a site historical significance.

There are those Greenbelt purists, like Councilmember Rodney Roberts, who argue that virtually any change removes historical significance from a site and who advocate for preserving Greenbelt in its original form. On the other hand there are those like Mayor Judith Davis, who argue that to keep Greenbelt alive as a thriving, contemporary community, some physical changes must be made to reflect changes in the

citizenry. The presence of these opposing viewpoints on one small, five-person council is enough to spark conflict, but compounding the problem is a muddled definition of what qualifies a space as historic in the first place.

The school board representatives and their architect argue that the truly historic part of the middle school is the portion built in 1937, which includes some classrooms and a food preparation area, among other things. The gym, though built in 1945, does not qualify as "historic." However, one school board representative questioned, "Just because something is old, is it actually historic?"

Apparently, while the façade is somewhat in line with traditional Art Deco Greenbelt styling, very little of the interior of the school is original, except for a few doors. And, as the architect pointed out, what exists is not an efficient use of the space. In order to use the building for classrooms a great deal of renovation would need to be done

and this work could potentially undermine whatever was historic about it in the first place.

### Alternative

The alternative the school

See GMS, page 5

### What Goes On

Saturday, December 31  
7 p.m., New Year's Celebration, Community Center

Monday, January 2 – City and GHI Offices Closed in Observance of New Year Holiday

Wednesday, January 4  
7:30 p.m., Advisory Planning Board Meeting, Community Center

8 p.m., Council Worksession re: Greenbelt Station, Community Center (May Be Changed for Executive Session)

Monday, January 9  
8 p.m., Regular Council Meeting, Municipal Building

## Plenty of Music, Games And Fun for New Year's



This year's Greenbelt New Year celebration is called "A Thousand Stars." Among the stars shining brightly on Saturday evening will be some talented performers who call Greenbelt home. Folksinger Melissa Sites will lead songs at the Community Campfire hosted by the Girl Scouts in Roosevelt Center. She teaches a pre-school music class at the Community Center and enjoyed a stint as music teacher last summer at Creative Kids Camp (CKC). Sites will be joined by storyteller Tim Livengood for the campfire, which the Girl Scouts will light at 7 p.m.

Another CKC instructor, Greenbelter Chris Fominaya, will have two gigs at Greenbelt New Year. He will play Disney favorites in the Sing-along Piano Lounge at the Community Center and will also accompany Camp Cabaret Sings at the Arts Center. The teen performers of Camp Cabaret have spent the entire week polishing their show under the direction of Fominaya, Madeline Bell and Rachel Moore-Beitler.

Greenbelt is fortunate to be the home of several fine pianists. Following Fominaya in the piano lounge will be Sondra Holland who will play holiday songs and Stefan Brodd who will play Broadway tunes. Holland has appeared at the city's Artful Afternoons and Brodd has played for a series of popular senior music classes, as well as accompanying many camp shows and youth musicals.

In addition to the teen singers of Camp Cabaret, the Arts Center will feature a special sneak preview of selections from the upcoming production of "Cabaret," which opens January 6. The theater has been configured as a cabaret for the show with audience members seated around small tables.

Young local filmmakers will present short animation pieces at the GAVA/GATE animation showcase at the movie theater. A highlight of the showcase will be the world premiere of two shorts by Joel Mason-Gaines and Caleb Valentich.

Partygoers who want to boost their glamour quotient will find willing assistants at the Wacky Hair Salon where volunteers from the Greenbelt Swim Team will create spectacular 'dos for the evening. Salon clients will be entertained by the high-octane antics of "Improv Asylum," featuring hometown performers Jesse Goldberg-Strassler, Kevin Skolnik and CKC drama teacher Jesse Folks.

### Food Offerings

Greenbelt civic groups will be selling food to partygoers. The St. Hugh's Home and School Association will keep the stove hot in the Community Center kitchen, serving up hot dogs, lo mein

noodles, egg rolls, nachos and more. GreenBeLT Pride will be selling pizza and sodas at the Youth Center and the Girl Scouts will be making S'mores at the Community Campfire at Roosevelt Center.

Greenbelt restaurateurs will be cooking up a storm as well. Chef Lou will serve desserts upstairs at the Community Center and the New Deal Café will be open all night with a special buffet served from 12:45 to 2 a.m.

The evening will feature some popular imported talent as well. At the Community Center the gym will rock to the beat of "Smooth Pan Sounds Steel Drum Band" and "DC Motors." Just down the hall Frank Cassel, The Banjo Man, will be pluckin' and strummin' for delighted fans. The Kaydee Puppets are presenting three shows: "The Ugly Duckling," "Bunny Tales" and "Little Red Riding Hood." In the Celestial Craft Shop, partygoers will create starry hats and tiaras to wear for the evening.

### Dancing

Downstairs at the Community Center ballroom champ Frank Solomon is hosting an all-night Mad Hot Ballroom dance party, with non-stop music and mini-lessons in the hottest moves for couples dancing. Upstairs, singer-songwriter John Hill and magician Magic Mike will perform throughout the evening.

At the Youth Center, the karaoke DJ will be standing by for those partygoers who emerge from the Wacky Hair Salon and Improv Asylum ready for their moment in the spotlight. Giant action games will thrill those whose aspirations take a more Olympic turn.

The New Deal Café will present three musical acts during the evening. First up, at 8 p.m. will be Doug Way who plays American roots music. Next, at 9 p.m. is "The Scrub Pines" who play alternative country. Finally, from 10 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Mike Hamilton and "Don't Blame Us" will play Appalachian and urban traditional music.

The evening's festivities begin at 7 p.m. on Saturday, December 31. Admission wristbands are on sale now at the Community Center, Youth Center and the Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket. Children five and under are admitted free. For information and schedule call the Community Center at 301-397-2208.

*A Review*

## Celebration of Christmas Amongst Friends

**by Judy Bell**

"A Celebration of Christmas," a concert performed by members of Music Amongst Friends, drew over 100 listeners to Greenbelt Community Church on Sunday, December 18. The performers included Greenbelt resident Muriel Bennett Balzer on piano, with soprano Gina Vikari Moore and baritone James K. Moore providing vocals.

The concert opened with a carol – the Moores singing a vibrant "O Come All Ye Faithful" duet. James sang "O Holy Night," followed by another duet with Gina, Bach's "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring."

The next group of offerings centered on the birth of Jesus with James singing a spot-on version of a little-heard piece called "The Kings," followed by Ralph Vaughn Williams "The Oxen." Gina Moore, sounding like an angel, sang "The Virgin's Slumber Song," a lyrical lullaby. "Rejoice Greatly" from Handel's Messiah, an ambitious piece, was ably sung by Gina.

After a brief intermission the concert continued with lighter carols, such as a delightfully-performed, playful duet of "A Winter Wonderland," Gina singing "White Christmas," an affection-

ate "Let it Snow" duet, James on "Christmas Song" and a "Silver Bells" duet, with the singers using their voices in perfect harmony to sound out the bells, as well as the bustle of the holidays, in music.

The concluding selections consisted of familiar traditional carols. Gina exquisitely sang the first verse of "Silent Night" in both English and German. James sang "O Little Town of Bethlehem" with such feeling that I found myself really concentrating on the words.

One of my favorites was John Jacob Niles' "I Wonder as I Wander" performed meaningfully by James. A rousing "I Heard the Bells" concluded the performance.

And what Christmas concert could be held without some measure of audience participation? The group obliged with "Joy to the World." All selections were deftly accompanied by Muriel Balzer. I would have enjoyed hearing at least one solo by her.

The concert was another high-quality performance such as Greenbelters have enjoyed in recent years at the Community Church. Bravo!

Muriel Bennett Balzer is the

founder and artistic director for Music Amongst Friends, a small classical ensemble dedicated to the high vocal arts. Balzer received a master's degree in piano performance from the Peabody Conservatory of Music, Johns Hopkins University. She has done extensive solo, chamber and accompanying work throughout the United States.

Gina Vikari Moore was a winner in the Seattle Civic Opera Auditions and appeared in Seattle Opera's Don Carlos. She has pursued the opera and musical theater stages in both Europe and the United States. In 2003 she was one of few nationally-chosen participants in the American Singer's Opera Project in New York City.

James K. Moore earned a doctor of arts degree in Vocal Performance from the University of Washington and is currently assistant professor of voice at Howard University in Washington, D.C. He is the winner of several major vocal competitions and has performed extensively with a number of opera companies throughout Europe and the United States as both a baritone and tenor. He is equally at home performing musical theater.



"I hope the S'mores are as good as the stories."

AGNES CONATY ©2005

*A Review*

## Audience Enjoys Christmas Concert

**by Sabine Hentrich**

Music Amongst Friends treated Greenbelters with a variety of Christmas music filling Greenbelt Community Church with sounds of joy on December 18. The artists' range covered many songs from classical music, such as excerpts from Handel's Messiah, to more modern, secularized Christmas songs like "Winter Wonderland."

All three artists presenting this wonderful concert are world-class musicians with impressive resumes. Greenbelter Muriel Bennett Balzer, who, among many other things, has taught at Johns Hopkins and the Peabody Conservatory of Music, played piano for the friends. Gina Vikari Moore, who has appeared in concerts in Europe and throughout the U.S., sang soprano. Lastly, James K. Moore, an amazing singer and actor with a huge resume and a doctorate in musical arts, sang baritone. Moore is the winner of seven major vocal competitions and has had the pleasure to perform Siegmund in "Die Walkure" and Ford in "Falstaff," among many other impressive roles.

While the three performed, one could observe many a dreamy-eyed member of the audience who filled the church's pews listening in amazement to

the beautiful music. The first half of the evening was mostly taken up by classical Christian songs one

does not hear much outside of church these days – and hardly ever performed by such wonderful musicians. The friends sang 12 classical songs. Handel's "There Were Shepherds Abiding in the Field" from the Messiah and "The Virgin's Slumber Song" by Max Reger were two of them.

Some of the works were performed in a duet and some as solo. Both Gina and James Moore are impressive soloists and one can tell they live to love their music. James Moore sang in English and Italian and Gina Moore in English and German. They are fluent in the foreign languages and Gina Moore made "Stille Nacht (Silent Night)" sound ever so beautiful in German, a language very difficult to sing.

The second half of the evening highlighted popular Christmas songs likely to be heard on the radio, TV and everywhere one goes this season. The singers performed "Let it Snow," for example, as a cute love song that certainly put one into a happy Christmas mood.

During the last song, the audience joined the three friends for "Joy to the World" assuring the

holiday spirit.

The only downside to the performance was that some members of the audience clearly left their concert etiquette at home. One person not only interrupted the concert with her cell phone's musical ring but took the call! Sadly, her cell phone was not the only one to ring during the course of the evening.

Aside from these interruptions, everyone had a great time. Not only the three performers but also the audience clearly enjoyed themselves and had a wonderful evening at the Community Church. This reviewer cannot wait until next year's round of Christmas songs from Music Amongst Friends. If you would like to learn more about this group, you may visit <http://www.musicamongstfriends.com>.



## HAPPY NEW YEAR! Greenbelt East Advisory Committee (GEAC)

# Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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Eileen Farnham, president; James Giese, vice president; Diane Oberg, treasurer; Thomas X. White, secretary; Virginia Beauchamp, Judy Bell and Pat Davis.

DEADLINES: Letters, articles and ads—10 p.m. Tuesday. Materials for publication may be mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 7 p.m. Tuesday) or brought to our office in the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, during office hours. Mail subscriptions—\$35/year.

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.  
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 8 - 10 p.m.

## M-NCPPC Offers New Year Classes

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission announces registration for bio aerobics dance fitness classes for adults and teens. Programs available include Cardio Fit (high/low) and Tone & Firm classes. All Monday/Wednesday classes start January 18. All Tuesday/Thursday classes start

January 17. Classes will be held at Berwyn Heights Community Center in Berwyn Heights, College Park Community Center in College Park and Good Luck Community Center in Lanham.

For information and a free brochure call 301-262-5175 or visit the website at [www.bioaerobics.com](http://www.bioaerobics.com).

301-474-9744 • 301-474-9745  
129 Centerway  
[www.pgtheatres.com](http://www.pgtheatres.com)

# Community Events

## Folk Dance Class Holds Open House

Overextend by eating too well during the holiday season? Want to have fun and burn a few calories? Join the Greenbelt Folk Dancers for a free folk dance open house on Friday, January 6 at 7:30 p.m. at the Greenbelt Youth Center.

Dances from many different countries will be taught; all are easy enough for beginners. There will be light refreshments. Partners are not necessary but comfortable shoes and clothing are important.

Those who enjoy dancing at the open house can enroll in the Friday night classes that evening or by contacting the Greenbelt Recreation Department for enrollment instructions.

## Principal to Speak About Middle School

Greenbelt Middle School Principal Judy Austin will be the guest speaker at the Greenbelt Elementary School (GES) PTA meeting on Tuesday, January 3 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the school's media center. She will talk about how to ease the transition to middle school. Parents of current 5th and 6th graders are especially encouraged to attend. Free babysitting is available. The GES PTA hopes to make further outreach efforts to Greenbelt Middle School. For further information go to [www.greenbelt.com/gespta](http://www.greenbelt.com/gespta) or call 301-441-8312.

## At the Library

Libraries will be closed Sunday, January 1 and Monday, January 2.

Tuesday, January 3, 10:30 a.m. – Cuddlertime for newborns to 17 months with caregiver, limit 15 babies.

Wednesday, January 4, 10:30 a.m. – Toddler time for ages 18 to 35 months with caregiver, limit 15 toddlers.

Thursday, January 5, 10:30 a.m. – Drop-in Storytime for ages 3 to 5, limit 20 children.

## GEAC Meets

The next meeting of the Greenbelt East Advisory Committee (GEAC) will be held Thursday, January 6 at 7:30 p.m. at Greenbriar. Election of officers will be held at this meeting.

## Holiday Homework Due on January 3

Parents are reminded that every Prince George's County public school pupil, K-10, was sent home for the winter break with homework packets that are to be turned in on January 3. For the second year in a row, the vacation homework is designed to assure children are prepared for advanced placement exams and new state testing requirements that determine whether they will graduate high school, starting with the 2009 graduating class. Parents are asked to spend time themselves during the winter break, to see that students practice the reading and math skills in the vacation skills packets.

The county school board urges parents to call the principal right away if their student does not have a packet of holiday work. Extra homework credit is given as an incentive to complete these holiday assignments.

## Movie on Wal-Mart To Be Screened

The Eleanor & Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club of Greenbelt will collaborate with the United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) Local #400 for a screening of the movie "Wal-Mart: The High Cost of Low Price."

The feature-length documentary (90 min.) will be shown in the Terrace Room of the Greenbriar Community Building, 7600 Hanover Parkway on Wednesday, January 4 at 7:30 p.m.

Club members, prospective members and the public are invited to attend. There is no fee but reservations are necessary because of limited seating. Call Roosevelt President Pat Unger at 301-474-1052 to make a reservation.

There will be a moderated discussion following the film. Light refreshments will be served. Tony Perez, assistant director of Government Affairs for the union, will be on hand to give background and answer questions.

For information about the film, produced by Robert Greenwald and Brave New Films, visit [www.walmartmovie.com](http://www.walmartmovie.com).

## City Notes

Public works facilities maintenance crews began work on a multi-week project to install stage lighting in the gymnasium at the Community Center. This project requires city staff to work in coordination with at least three outside contractors and staff from the Recreation Department to design and install structural supports, wiring and equipment. The crew also met with representatives from the National Historic Trust, the contractor and staff from the Recreation Department to inspect all of the windows that were renovated to create a list of outstanding work items.

The vehicle mechanics crew repaired several parts on a disabled dump truck.

Recreation department management held five in-house interviews last week for the vacant recreation coordinator position and a recommendation was sent to the city manager.

North Pole forms were filled out, collected and handed to Santa last week for North Pole Calling. Santa made about 35 phone calls to area children.

Late Night was held with eight participants enjoying pizza, swimming and a movie at the Youth Center on December 16.

More than \$3,700 has been collected for the Mary Purcell Geiger Scholarship Fund supporting arts and senior programs.

### CARES

Masters of Social Work interns Jamie Wilson and Olivia Moore have completed conflict resolution and decision-making groups at Springhill Lake Elementary. There were 29 students attending.

Teresa Smithson and Jamie Wilson completed a 10-week psycho-educational group on self-esteem. Five clients participated in the group.

## Girl Scouting Programs Offer Pluses

Girl Scouts can change the life of a girl. Today's young people face problems and challenges many do not imagine. Giving them tools to successfully meet those challenges is everyone's responsibility. During the holiday season, consider giving a girl something that can be beneficial to her and just plain fun. Girl Scouts is a resource for parents who want to get their daughters involved in something that inspires them to accomplish bigger things. The national Girl Scout organization recently re-dedicated itself to the mission of building girls of courage, confidence and character to make the world a better place.

Through educational programs that teach math, science, the environment and literacy, Girl Scouts reaches out to thousands of girls in the community – providing services and opportunities that help them reach their

goals no matter what their race, religion or financial status – and they have fun reaching those goals together.

Parents and guardians are encouraged to think about how Girls Scouts could make a change in the life of a girl and take the next step to make that change. It could be a great gift for the season and one that will last for a Girl Scout's lifetime. There are a number of Girl Scout and Brownie troops in Greenbelt. Interested families can call Beverly Smith at 301-441-3814.

## Children Skate Free

Glide on the ice to start off the New Year on Sunday, January 1 from 1 to 3 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. at Herbert Wells Ice Rink, 5211 Paint Branch Parkway, College Park. Up to four children are admitted free with a paying parent admission. Admission fee does not include skate rental.

## Free Gymkana Jan. 8

On Sunday, January 8 at 3 p.m. there will be a free gymkana program for kids at the Old Parish House, 4711 Knox Road in College Park. This activity led by Scott Welsh, coach of the University of Maryland Gymkana troupe, will include tumbling, bouncing, rolling and learning gymnastic tricks. Participants should come dressed to move.

Registration is requested. Call 301-927-3013 or email [info@cpae.org](mailto:info@cpae.org) for information.

## MVA/VEIP Closed Monday

The Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) offices and Vehicle Emissions Inspection (VEIP) stations will be closed on Monday, January 2 in observance of New Year's Day.

**Happy New Year!**  
from the  
**Greenbelt Lions Club**



Our thanks to the Greenbelt Community for their generous support of the White Cane Collections which help finance our programs such as:

- Holiday Toy Drive for the Children of our Community
- Pre-School Vision Screening (for blindness prevention in children)
- Support of the Wilmer Eye Clinic at Johns Hopkins Hospital



**Come Celebrate  
the 10th Anniversary  
of the Founding of the  
New Deal Café**



The Friends of New Deal Café Arts (FONDCA) would like to thank all the past and present visionaries, volunteers, financial supporters, board members, managers, staff, cooks, loyal customers, dedicated members, artists and musicians who have made the Café what it is today!

Special thanks for the early and continued support from the Greenbelt Consumers Cooperative (the Co-op) and the City of Greenbelt.

**COME OUT TO ENJOY OUR NEW SPACE,  
ART AND MUSIC THIS NEW YEAR'S EVE!**

*Access starts at 8pm with the Greenbelt New Year's wristband.*

**8pm Doug Way – Good old country style pickin' and singin'**

**9pm The Scrub Pines – Alt. Country & Folk**

**10pm Mike Hamilton & the Don't Blame Us Band – Appalachian & Urban Traditional (scheduled to finish at 12:30am)**

A special buffet breakfast will also be served from 12:30 to 2 a.m. for an additional cost.



Music performance brought to you by the Friends of New Deal Café Arts (FONDCA), which sponsors arts programs at the New Deal Café and in Roosevelt Center with supporting funding from the City of Greenbelt, Prince George's County, Prince George's Arts Council and many individual supporters.

## Obituaries

### Michael Zukauskas

Michael Paul Zukauskas died on Christmas Eve, December 24, 2005. A funeral was held on Thursday, December 29 at St. Margaret's Church in Belair, Md. The Zukauskas family is also planning a service to celebrate Michael's life, to take place at the Greenbelt Community Church sometime in August 2006.

### Our Neighbors

Our condolences to Lee-Ellen and Katie Zukauskas, whose husband and father Michael Paul Zukauskas died on Saturday, December 24, 2005.

Our best wishes to former News Review staffer Barbara Young who is at home recovering after hip replacement surgery.

Air Force Airman Raymond A. King, Jr. has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. King is the son of Raymond and Diane King of Research Road. He is a 2002 graduate of Eleanor Roosevelt High School.

Congratulations to Eleanor Roosevelt High School on being one of 41 Maryland public and private schools to receive a Maryland Center for Character Education 2005 School of the Year Award. To be considered for recognition schools must have excelled in two or more criteria pertaining to character building programs.

Kimberly Lynn Lawson received her bachelor's degree in biology from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington on December 10. Kimberly is the daughter of Betty and Jamie Linkenhoker of King George, Va. Her grandparents are Sandy and Fred Mooney of Research Road.

Councilmember Edward Putens has a new position as head of the Small Cities Council of the National League of Cities. He is the representative from the State of Maryland. At the December GEAC meeting, Putens noted that the group is holding a summer meeting in Greenbelt at which he hopes to showcase the city. He is looking for donations for the event from Greenbelt businesses.



**Catholic Community of Greenbelt MASS**

Sundays 10 A.M.  
Municipal Building

### Baha'i Faith

"O Friend!  
In the garden of thy heart,  
plant naught but the rose of love."  
—Baha'u'llah

Greenbelt Baha'i Community  
P.O. Box 245  
Greenbelt, MD 20770  
301-345-2918 301-220-3160  
www.bahai.org www.us.bahai.org

## Fun and Cookies with Santa And Greenbriar Residents

by Debbie Thompson

Greenbriar residents of all ages enjoyed having cookies with Santa in the Greenbriar Terrace Room on Sunday, December 11. Crafts and gingerbread cookie decorating kept the children busy until Santa arrived. "The Facepaint Lady" from Painted Faces, Inc., transformed

guests into Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer, Santa's elf, beautiful fairies and a Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle. Special guests included Miss Greenbelt Emily Ivy, Junior Miss Greenbelt Devin Fendley and Little Miss Greenbelt Alexis Thompson.



Little Miss Greenbelt Alexis Thompson, Junior Miss Greenbelt Devin Fendley (left) and Miss Greenbelt Emily Ivy pose with Santa Clause at Greenbriar cookie event.



One of Santa's elves (Matt Thompson) and Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer (Allison Thompson) at the "Cookies with Santa" event at Greenbriar.

Photos by  
Debbie Thompson

**GREENBELT BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Corner of Crescent and Greenhill Roads 301-474-4212  
[www.greenbeltbaptist.org](http://www.greenbeltbaptist.org) [greenbelt.baptist@verizon.net](mailto:greenbelt.baptist@verizon.net)  
Dr. Mark Johnson, Pastor



Sunday School: 9:30 am  
Worship Service: 10:45 am  
Weds. Worship: 7:00 pm  
(Adult Bible Study/Prayer & Children's Ministry)

Helping People Connect with Christ and His Family through Loving Service



### St. George's Episcopal/ Anglican Church

7010 Glenn Dale Road  
(Lanham-Severn Road & Glenn Dale Road)  
301-262-3285 | [rector@stgeo.org](mailto:rector@stgeo.org) | [www.stgeo.org](http://www.stgeo.org)

Sundays:	8:00 am Simple, quiet Mass
	9:00 am Christian education for all ages
	10:00 am Sung Mass with organ and folk music, ASL interpreted
	1:30 pm Signed Mass (last Sunday of each month only)
Wednesdays:	7:00 pm Simple, quiet Mass

An inclusive congregation!

### ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770  
301-474-4322



**Saturday, December 31**

New Year's Vigil - 5:00 p.m.

**Sunday, January 1 – New Year's Day**

Solemnity of Mary Mother of God  
8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., and 11:00 a.m.

**Pastor: Fr. Walter J. Tappe**  
**Pastoral Associate: Fr. R. Scott Hurd**



PHOTO BY MARY MOIEN

Hanukkah, the Jewish Festival of Lights began on the evening of December 25 with the lighting of the first candle. The eighth candle will be lighted this Sunday evening. (For the first time in almost 50 years the first night of Hanukkah and Christmas shared the same date.)

### Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

[www.greenbelturnmc.org](http://www.greenbelturnmc.org) 301-474-9410

Rev. Dr. Paul C. Kim, Pastor

Sunday School 9:45 am Worship Service 11:00 am

Prayer Meeting Wed. 6:45 pm

Crossways Bible Study Tues. 7:30 pm Thurs. 10:30 am

Handicapped Accessible Come As You Are!

### HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

6905 Greenbelt Road • 301-345-5111

#### New Year's Services

Dec. 31, 5 p.m. – Service of Holy Communion

Jan. 1, 10 a.m. – Service of Holy Communion



Fax 301-220-0694 • E-mail [myholycross@verizon.net](mailto:myholycross@verizon.net)

### Greenbelt Community Church

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Hillside & Crescent Roads  
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings

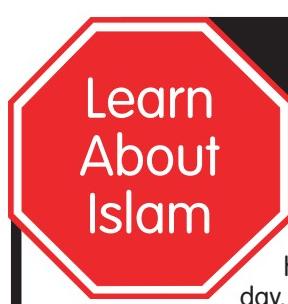
[www.greenbelt.com/gccucc/](http://www.greenbelt.com/gccucc/)

#### Sunday Worship

10:15 a.m.

Daniel Hamlin, Pastor

"A church of the open mind, the warm heart,  
the aspiring soul, and the social vision..."



### GIVE THANKS

Every breath that we breathe is a blessing from God and we learn from the Prophet Solomon (peace be upon him) to recognize these blessings each day. The Holy Qur'an tells us how he never forgot to be thankful to God. He is quoted to have said, "This is by the grace of my Lord, to test me whether I am grateful or ungrateful! And if any is grateful, it is (a gain) for his own soul; but if any is ungrateful, truly my Lord is free of all needs, supreme in honor."

— The Holy Qur'an, 27:40

Remember to count your blessings each day. For information about gratefulness from an Islamic perspective, call 301-982-9463 or email [searchislam@mail.com](mailto:searchislam@mail.com) or visit [www.islamguide.com](http://www.islamguide.com).

**GMS**

continued from page 1

board proposed to council was a concept replicating the design of a combined middle and elementary school similar to one in use near FedEx Field. This design would preserve the historic part of the existing middle school for use as administrative offices and community space. This particular concept keeps the elementary and middle school students physically separate, though housed in one building. The actual school would be located behind the current school and would not touch any part of the existing school. All but the historic part of Greenbelt Middle would be razed.

Though much research was done on this particular concept before it was implemented near Baltimore, Roberts felt that not enough alternatives were being offered to the council by the school board. He hoped to see a design that would incorporate the historic part of the middle school into the new school. The architect, however, said that such a plan would be nearly impossible given the school's budget because the elevation of the current school is so high and the area behind it so low that expensive and time consuming leveling would need to be done. There was also little support for alternative concepts from the rest of the council.

Instead, Davis, Councilmembers Leta Mach, Edward Putens and Konrad Herling asked that the school board return to the drawing board and bring council several options of where the proposed building could be placed on the site to preserve more of the forest. The concept of a combined middle and elementary school and even the proposed building design seemed to have the majority of the council's approval but placement remains an issue. Though future enrollment for the school is uncertain, most agreed that building on the current site would not allow a large enough school. Also debated was how the preserved historic part should be used and whether or not administrative offices would be appropriate there.

The architect and school board will be working over the next two weeks to produce the drawings requested by council and will present them in an early January council meeting.

There is an urgent  
need for blood.

**GIVE BLOOD**  
**1-800-GIVE-LIFE**



# City Information

## GREENBELT AQUATIC AND FITNESS CENTER Winter Session ~ Adult and Children's Classes

**Session Dates:** January 2 thru February 25

**Open registration for Adult classes:**

December 21 until classes fill

**Open registration for Children's Lessons:**

December 21 until January 6 at 2:00pm

### Holiday Hours: Recreation Facilities

	<b>GCC</b>	<b>GAFC</b>	<b>YC/SHLRC</b>
<b>December 31</b>	9am-1pm	8am-5pm	12- 5pm
<b>January 1</b>	12-4pm	12-5pm	12-5pm

GCC - Greenbelt Community Center, GAFC - Greenbelt Aquatics and Fitness Center, YC - Youth Center  
SHLRC - Springhill Lake Recreation Center

### Meetings for January 2-6

**Wednesday, January 4**, 7:30pm, **Advisory Planning Board**, Greenbelt Community Center, Theater Rehearsal Room 202, AGENDA: I. Call to Order, II. Approval of Agenda, III. Approval of Minutes, IV. Election of Officers, V. Revision to Conceptual Site Plan – Greenbelt Station, VI. Adjourn

**Wednesday, January 4**, 8:00pm, \***Council Work Session re: Greenbelt Station**, Community Center.

\*May be changed to an Executive Session.

## HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

City Offices will be closed

Monday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>

in observance of the New Year's Holiday.

## REFUSE/RECYCLING SCHEDULE

**Week of January 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Monday Route – Collected Tuesday

Tuesday Route – Collected Wednesday

Wednesday Route – Collected Thursday

Thursday Route – Collected Friday

There will be no appliance or yard waste collections on Friday, December 30<sup>th</sup> and Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup>.

## GREENBELT CONNECTION

The Greenbelt Connection will not be operating on Sunday and Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>.

## VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

*Volunteer to serve on City Council advisory groups.*

*Vacancies exist on the:*

*Advisory Planning Board*

*Arts Advisory Board*

*Employee Relations Board*

*Park and Recreation Advisory Board*

*Senior Citizens Advisory Committee*

*Youth Advisory Committee*

*(Openings for adult & youth positions.)*

*For more information, please call 301-474-8000.*

## GREENBELT NEW YEAR 2006:

# a thousand stars

*Join your friends and neighbors for a starry hometown New Year's Eve celebration featuring entertainment for all ages, at these adjoining venues in the heart of historic Greenbelt:*

In Roosevelt Center: Community Campfire with Folksinger Melissa Sites and Storyteller Tim Livengood, hosted by Girl Scouts Don't Blame Us Country and Blue Grass Band, and Roots Music by Doug Way at the New Deal Café \* Camp Cabaret Sings at the Arts Center \* GAVA/GATE Animation Festival at the Movie Theater \* S'mores for sale by the Girl Scouts

At the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road: DC Motors \* Smooth Pan Sounds Steel Drums \* John Hill Magic Mike w Kaydee Puppets \* Mad Hot Ballroom w The Banjo Man \* Celestial Craft Workshop \* Sing-Along Piano Lounge \* Hot Foods and Sweet Treats for sale by St. Hugh's Home and School Association \* Desserts for sale by Chef Lou

At the Youth Center, 99 Centerway: Wacky Hair Salon and Improv Asylum \* Karaoke DJ \* Giant Action Games \* Pizza and Sodas for sale by GreenBeLT Pride

**ALL FOR ONE LOW ADMISSION PRICE! ONLY \$5 IN ADVANCE; \$7 AT THE DOOR. CHILDREN 5 AND UNDER FREE!**

Saturday, December 31, 2005 at 7:00 PM Till After Midnight

Buy your admission wristband now at Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket, the Community Center, or the Youth Center Call (301) 397-2208 for more information. Hosted by the Greenbelt New Year Committee and Greenbelt Recreation Department.

## Notice of Amendment to the City Charter Addition of Power to Engage in Collective Bargaining

At its December 12, 2005, meeting, the City Council adopted a resolution to add a new paragraph to the City Charter to empower the City to develop a labor code for the purpose of engaging in collective bargaining with representatives of the non-managerial sworn officers of the Police Department. This action was taken in response to a binding referendum question that the Council placed on the ballot of the November 8, 2005, City election, which permitted the voters to decide whether this change should be made. There were 1,105 (58%) votes in favor of the amendment and 797 (42%) votes against it.

The charter amendment resolution will become effective on January 31, 2006, unless a proper petition to submit the amendment to the voters on a referendum is filed as permitted by law.

### Charter Amendment Resolution 2005-4

*A Resolution of the City of Greenbelt Adopted Pursuant to the Authority of Article XI-E of the Constitution of Maryland and Section 13 of Article 23A of the Annotated Code of Maryland, (1957 Edition as Amended), Title, "Corporation-Municipal," Subtitle "Home Rule" to Amend the Charter of the City of Greenbelt Found, in Whole or in Part, in the Compilation of Municipal Charters of Maryland (1983 Edition as Amended), as Prepared by the Department of Legislative Reference Pursuant to Chapter 77 of the Acts of the General Assembly of Maryland of 1983, by Amending Section 3, Titled "General Powers" to Add a New Paragraph 22 to Empower the City to Provide a Labor Code to Recognize the Right of Certain City Employees to Organize and Bargain Collectively.*

The resolution will add the following paragraph to the Section of the City Charter titled "General Powers":

22. To recognize and engage in collective bargaining with one or more designated bargaining representatives of non-managerial, sworn police officers of the City of Greenbelt, Maryland, Police Department; to enter into a binding collective bargaining agreement with said representatives; and to enact by ordinance or amendment a system of rules and regulations to govern this process. The City Council shall approve all collective bargaining agreements entered into by the City with a collective bargaining representative prior to their becoming effective. In the event the parties negotiating a collective bargaining agreement are unable to reach agreement on one or more terms of a collective bargaining agreement, the City Council shall have the authority to set those terms and conditions of employment that remain in dispute upon a majority vote.

As required by state law, this resolution will be posted in its entirety for 40 days, until January 21, 2006, at the Municipal Building at 25 Crescent Road. It can also be found on the Greenbelt CityLink Web site at <http://www.greenbeltdmd.gov> under "Code Revisions." A copy may also be requested from the City Clerk. For additional information, call or e-mail Kathleen Gallagher, at 301-474-8000 or [kgallagher@greenbeltdmd.gov](mailto:kgallagher@greenbeltdmd.gov).

## COUNCIL continued from page 1



**Illustrated Site Plan and Landscape Plan for Greenbelt Station**  
(Prepared by Lessard Group, Inc.)

This earlier prepared Illustrative Site Plan and Landscape Plan for Greenbelt Station depicts the general layout for the proposed development at and south of the Greenbelt Metro Station. In this plan, north is approximately to the right. Running across the top of the property (toward the west) are the tracks for the Metro and CSX lines. The Metro station property is the large area on the right side labeled high density mixed use. Below the development (toward the east) is Cherrywood Lane with the Springhill Lake apartments on the other side of the road and the Beltway Plaza property at the south (left) end of the road. On the far left side is Greenbelt Road with the principal road through the proposed development (connector road) proposed to intersect with it just east of the overpass across the tracks. The connector road will be the main access initially to the South Core. Most of the wooded area shown is the 75.5 acres of state-owned land along Indian Creek.

Greenbelt Station is divided into two sections. The North Core (right side) located on the Metro station property where high-density mixed use is proposed and the South Core (to the left) located on the former A. H. Smith property once used for sand and gravel mining operations and for asphalt and concrete mixing plants. The part of the South Core to the east (below) the connector road is to be developed with owner-occupied townhouses. It is in this area where discussion has occurred to enlarge a small park area into a commons which could be tied to pathways alongside the state property. On the other side of the connector road plans call for apartments and condominiums, some to be located above retail stores. Between the North Core and the South Core is an area of environmentally-sensitive land to be left undisturbed except for the road. The developer plans to begin construction in the South Core first, so planning for that area is further along than for the mixed use North Core.

The city council has adopted resolutions to annex the South Core property and the state-owned land. These annexations will become effective in January if neither owners nor citizens petition the matters to referendum.

in the overall development plan.

Dernoga's plan would reduce the number of mainly townhouse units in the development east of the connector road in order to create a larger civic open space or commons essentially extending from the connector road to the preserved open space area to the east.

Although the city has long sought such a commons area, the reduction of housing units there would require added density on the west side of the connector road. This change would bring housing closer to the most environmentally sensitive area located to the north.

Further, in order to maximize the overall impact of the enlarged commons area, the city would ask that some additional townhouses be moved to provide a better vista from the commons to the preserved open space to the east. Such a move would integrate this wider opening to a possible environmental interpretive center in the area and connect to a proposed pathway system along the periphery of the protected green space.

The question posed for future council decision is, "Is this trade-off agreeable?"

### Recreational Facilities

The commons issue also touched on concerns about available recreational facilities and open space to serve the development. In spite of the large area in the Dernoga plan designated as a commons, city staff feels this space would still not be appropriate for organized sports activities. Staff recommended that it could serve as a "free play" area for informal recreation uses.

In order to address the lack of

active recreation facilities (ballfields), staff was looking at the possible upgrading of other facilities in the city to increase their efficiency and the possible purchase of property adjacent to the South Core specifically for active recreation uses.

Councilmember Rodney Roberts again reiterated his belief that the developer should be able to afford and be responsible for providing adequate recreational facilities to serve their development.

### Housing Choices

Another issue brought to council's attention was labeled housing choice/opportunities. This concerns the availability of affordable housing, a diverse housing mix and consideration of so-called active senior housing (age 55+) in the proposed development plan as well as a council concern that marketing to only one population segment could result in a monoculture for the area. Councilmembers used this opportunity to again urge consideration by the developers for the cooperative housing option. They also expressed support for some single-level units (so-called patio homes).

This issue was directly related to condition numbers 32 and 35 in the "Staff Conditions" draft. Council expressed agreement with staff that they should continue to work with the development team on more variety in housing design and mix to increase housing choice and opportunities.

### Auto Trips

Another potential issue relates to reduced overall floor area for the development as a result of revisions made in the agreement with the city. Under the formula

used by planners, this has resulted in a reduction of estimated auto trips generated by the development. The developer, asking fairness, seeks a comparable reduction in the transportation requirements for the development, thereby reducing their payment requirements.

The city staff position is that there is no such thing as "surplus trips." Staff considers trip estimates to be planning tools providing flexible trade-offs to balance the number of units and trip generation numbers to provide adequate transportation facilities.

For this issue, the majority of council agreed they were comfortable with the staff treatment of this issue as set forth in condition numbers 1 and 2 in the Staff Conditions draft.

In addition, council argued that other developers not be able to use such perceived "excess capacity" as a way to avoid costs of transportation improvements deemed necessary to serve their individual projects. Staff was directed to work with the development team and counsel to lock up any so-called excess capacity.

### Possible Shuttle

Councilmember Konrad Herling suggested that another means of providing access to recreational opportunities for future residents of the development would be increased emphasis on a local transportation shuttle. In response, Assistant Planning Director Terri Hruby recommended that the city get more involved in the Regional Bus Study being undertaken by the Prince George's County Department of Public Works & Transportation. She urged that the transportation sec-

tion be made aware of the development planned for Greenbelt West, including the potential redevelopment of Springhill Lake.

### Annexation Resolutions

In wrapping up the briefing, council was also updated on the status of the two recently adopted annexation resolutions. Assuming there are no citizen or landowner challenges to the adopted resolutions, the annexation of the State of Maryland property adjacent to the Greenbelt Station development would be completed on January 12. Annexation of the unincorporated areas of the South Core development would be completed on January 26. Staff is also preparing an annexation agreement to be entered into between the city and Greenbelt Station developers.

It is anticipated that the annexation agreement would be established in advance of the actual annexation. In that regard, Craze noted that the latest outline of the city's Tax Incremental Financing

## Red Cross Limits Blood for Hospitals

Appointments at American Red Cross blood donor centers and blood drives were extremely low throughout the holiday weekend and many people failed to show up for their appointments as scheduled, causing inventory of Type O and Type B blood products to fall below a one-day supply. As a result, the Red Cross has been forced to limit distribution of blood products to some local hospitals. Blood donors are needed immediately to eliminate this blood shortage and help ensure that blood will be available for trauma victims, cancer patients and other local patients in need. Appointments are available at all donor centers and community blood drives by calling 1-800-GIVE-LIFE. Platelet donors are also needed; appointments are available by calling 1-800-272-2123.

The Red Cross is asking that members of the community to make it a priority to find an hour of time in their schedule this week to make a lifesaving donation.

As a special token of appreciation, the Red Cross is offering participants a limited-edition "Authentic Lifesaver" T-shirt. Further information about donating blood and a list of Red Cross blood donor centers and community blood drives is available at [www.my-redcross.org](http://www.my-redcross.org).

### Who Can Give

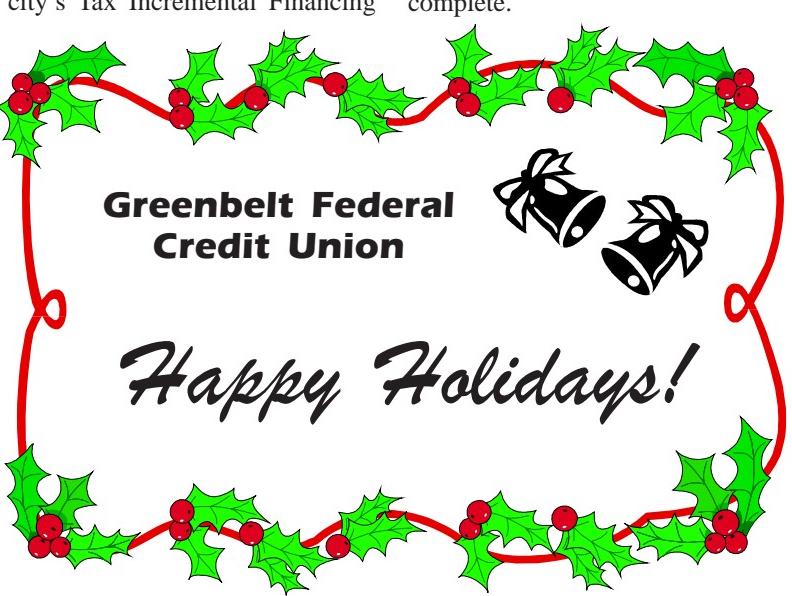
Donors must be in generally good health, be at least 17 years of age (or in the state of Maryland only 16 years of age with parental consent), weigh over 110 pounds, not have received a tattoo within the past year nor donated whole blood within the past 56 days.

(TIF) commitment for funding of the connector road is approximately \$8.4 million, with a generally accepted schedule to allow city financing for the road to be phased according to the level of development that has taken place.

Phase One would be the initial construction from Greenbelt Road up to the northernmost development along the west side of the connector in the South Core. Phase Two would go up to the so-called sensitive area south of the Metro property.

Phase Three would take the road up to the existing Metro ring road. Phase Four would complete the connector road to the North Core development area.

City staff will continue work on the annexation agreement and coordinate with the city's financial advisor on the TIF details. Staff will also deal with transitioning the authority of the annexed lands from the county to the city, once the annexations are complete.



**GREENBELT CONSUMER  
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SUPERMARKET  
PHARMACY**

**"Your Local Full Service  
Community Owned  
Supermarket & Pharmacy"**

121 CENTERWAY, ROOSEVELT CENTER

**Farm Fresh Produce**

Fancy Red Delicious Apples 3 lb. Bag	\$1.00	Florida Sweet Dark Red Grapefruit	\$1.00 Each
U.S.#1 Crisp Red-Green Leaf Lettuce	99¢ lb.	Verdelli Farms Curly Leaf Spinach	\$1.00 10 oz.
Sweet Large Clementines 5 lb. Box	\$5.99	U.S. #1 Western Premier Carrots 1 lb. Bag	79¢

**Fresh Quality Meats**

Fresh Lean Beef Boneless Chuck Roast	\$1.99 lb.	Fresh Grade A Shurfine Value Pack Whole Chicken Legs-Thighs-or-Drumsticks	79¢ lb.	Fresh Lean Beef Value Pack Boneless Ribeye Delmonico Steaks	\$6.99 lb.	Fresh 85% Lean Ground Beef	\$2.49 lb.
Fresh Lean Value Pack Pork Flat Spare Ribs	\$1.99 lb.	Fresh Lean Beef Value Pack Boneless Chuck Steaks	\$2.49 lb.	Hatfield Meat Franks Original-Low Sodium	\$1.00 1 lb.	Smithfield Sliced Bacon Assorted 1 lb.	\$2.50

**DAIRY**

Shurfine Orange Juice	\$1.00	Kraft Natural Chunk Cheeses Assorted 8 oz.	3/\$5
From Concentrate Assorted 64 oz.			

Shedd's Country Crock Soft Vegetable Spread	\$1.00	Crowley Non-Fat Yogurts	40¢
Assorted 15-16 oz.		Assorted 8 oz.	

**HEALTH & BEAUTY**

VO-5 Shampoo -or- Conditioners	\$1.00
15 oz.	

Ultra Brite Toothpaste	\$1.00
Assorted 6 oz.	

**SEAFOOD**

Aqua-Star Salmon Fillets	\$2.99 lb.
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Deli Gourmet Roast Beef	\$4.99 lb.
Berk's Tavern Ham	\$3.99 lb.

Deli Gourmet Swiss Cheese	\$4.99 lb.
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Stouffer's Original Macaroni & Cheese	\$1.00
12 oz.	

Hanover Vegetables	\$1.00
Selected Varieties 16 oz.	

Donald Duck Orange Juice	\$1.25
12 oz.	

Freezer Queen Meals	\$1.00
Assorted 6-11 oz.	

**NATURAL & GOURMET**

Mott's Hot-Spiced Cider Mixes	2/\$8.99
Assorted .74 oz.	

Ghirardelli Premium Baking Chocolates	\$1.79
Assorted 4 oz.	

**BAKERY**

Fresh Baked Vienna Bread Loaf	\$1.19
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Rich & Creamy Coconut Custard Pie	\$3.29
8 Inch	

Progresso Classic Soups	\$1.00
Selected Varieties 18-19 oz.	

Shurfine Pasta Sauce	\$1.00
Assorted 26 oz. Jar	

Thomas Original English Muffins 6 Pk.	\$1.00
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Bumble Bee Solid White Albacore Tuna 6 oz.	\$1.00
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Clorox Ultra Liquid Bleach Regular-French-Mountain 60 oz.	\$1.00
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Shurfine White Bathroom Tissue 4 Roll Pk.	\$1.00
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All Value Size Liquid Laundry Detergent	\$5.99
200 oz.	

Shurfine Macaroni & Cheese 7.25 oz.	3/\$1.00
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Dial-or-Coast Bath Size Bar Soap 3 Pk.	\$1.00
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Western Family 3 Way Light Bulbs	\$1.00
Each	

To Better Serve You...  
CO-OP Has Expanded Our Weekly Sale Ad Program.  
Look For Our New, Bigger, Brighter, 6 Page Full Color Ad Flier Enclosed In Your Weekly News Review. See Our New Ad Flier For Lots Of Additional Sale Bargains & Savings\$. Extra Ad Flyers Available Instore. Check It Out!

Coors Beer \$7.99  
12 Pk.-12 oz. Cans

Oracle Wines \$6.99  
750 ML

Nathanson Creek Wines \$5.99  
1.5 Liter

Guinness Stout \$7.99  
6 Pk.-12 oz.

Busch Beer \$3.49  
6 Pk.-12 oz. Cans

Santa Carolina Wines \$6.99  
1.5 Liter

**PROFESSIONAL PHARMACY**  
You're Invited! Please join us at CO-OP on Meter Day, for an informative session on Ascensia diabetes management tools. A Bayer Diabetes Specialist will be here to answer your questions and demonstrate Ascensia Blood Glucose Meters. November 22nd from 2-til-5pm.

PRICES EFFECTIVE: JANUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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8						

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Visit us online at [www.greenbeltco-op.com](http://www.greenbeltco-op.com)

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Mon. thru Fri. 9 a.m. til 7 p.m.  
Saturday 9 a.m. til 6 p.m. Closed Sunday 301-474-4400

# POLICE BLOTTER

*Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department.  
Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.*

## Robbery

December 20, 9:30 a.m., Greenway Center, a woman reported that she was sitting in a vehicle in the shopping center parking lot when she was approached by a man who attempted to open the locked driver's door. He broke out the driver's door window and demanded money from the woman. The man opened the driver's door and the woman ran from the vehicle. He took the victim's purse from the vehicle and fled in a silver 2000 Chevrolet truck, DC tags BH6569. A computer check revealed that the vehicle had been reported stolen. The suspect is described as a young black male, 5'7", 180 pounds with black hair and brown eyes, wearing a dark coat, a black hat and dark pants.

## Assault

December 17, 12:39 a.m., T.G.I. Friday's Restaurant, a nonresident woman was arrested and charged with assault, disorderly conduct, trespass and resisting arrest. Police responded to a report of a group of patrons walking out of the restaurant without paying the bill. Police stopped two members of the party as they were attempting to leave. One of them became disorderly, striking the officer's hand away in an attempt to walk by him. The bill was finally paid and the woman was ordered to leave the restaurant. She came back inside a short time later and was again asked to leave. She again came back into the restaurant, shouting profanities at the police. The woman was arrested and transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

## Arson

December 20, 4:14 p.m., 6100 block Breezewood Court, witnesses reported that a trash dumpster was set on fire by juveniles.

## DWI Arrests

December 15, 3:59 a.m., Springhill Drive and Springhill Lane, a nonresident man was arrested and charged with driving while impaired and driving under the influence after being stopped for a registration violation. He was released on citations pending trial.

December 17, 3:34 a.m., Cherrywood Lane and Ivy Lane, a nonresident man was arrested and charged with driving while impaired, driving under the influence and failure to obey a traffic device after being stopped for a traffic violation. He was released on citations pending trial.

## Disorderly Conduct

December 22, 3:47 p.m., 7800 block Mandan Road, a nonresident youth was arrested for disorderly conduct and failure to obey a lawful order when police responded to a report of a group of disorderly persons in the hallway of an apartment building. Police located the youths, who were shouting and running through different apartment buildings. The group was told to leave and began to comply when the youth

told them to come back and not to pay attention to the police officer. The youth's actions caused residents coming home from work to gather, afraid to walk past him into their residences. He was arrested and released to a parent pending action by the juvenile justice system.

## Trespass

December 16, 7:13 p.m., 5800 block Cherrywood Lane, a nonresident man was arrested and charged with trespass. He was seen on the grounds of Springhill Lake Apartments after having been banned from the complex earlier by agents of the property. The man was released on citation pending trial.

December 17, 4:59 p.m., Beltway Plaza, a nonresident man was arrested and charged with trespass. He had been banned from the mall by agents of the property but returned a short time later. He was arrested and released on citation pending trial.

December 19, 11:06 a.m., Greenbelt Middle School, three nonresident youths were arrested for trespass after they were found walking through the hallways of the school. They were released to parents pending action by the School Board and the juvenile justice system.

## Identity Theft

December 13, in reference to an identity theft reported November 15 in the 7100 block of Lake Drive, an arrest warrant has been obtained charging a nonresident woman with six counts of identity theft.

## Open Alcohol

December 19, 9:50 p.m., 5800 block Cherrywood Terrace, a nonresident man was arrested and charged with open alcohol in a public place after he was observed in possession of an open alcoholic beverage in the laundry room of an apartment building. He was released on citation pending trial.

## Burglaries

December 20, 10:36 a.m., 6200 block Springhill Drive, it was reported that unknown person(s) attempted to enter a residence by breaking out the living room window and forcing open a bedroom window. Entry was not gained.

December 20, 10:22 p.m., 40 block Crescent Road, it was reported that unknown person(s) forced open the basement storage bin in an apartment building. Musical instruments, amplifiers and video tapes were taken.

## Vehicle Crimes

Three vehicles were reported stolen: a green 1998 Buick Park Avenue 4-door, Maryland tags A134276 from the 6200 block Springhill Drive; a black 2005 Honda Accord 4-door, Maryland tags 1ATZ89 from the 9100 block Edmonston Terrace; and a purple 1996 Dodge Caravan, Maryland tags 617M322 from the 5800 block Cherrywood Lane.

Seven vehicles were recovered, three by Greenbelt police with no arrests and four by other police departments with one juvenile arrest made.

Vandalism to and theft from vehicles were reported in the following areas: 8000 block Mandan Road, 6900 block Hanover Parkway, 7700 block Hanover Parkway, 7500 block Greenway Center Drive, 6300 block Golden Triangle Drive, 6100 block Springhill Terrace and 6200 block Greenbelt Road.

## Schools Budget Survey Is Online

The second annual Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) budget survey is now online, collecting public input on spending priorities for the next school year.

By uploading a formal questionnaire to [www.pgcps.org](http://www.pgcps.org), the school system's website, the Board of Education and Interim Chief Executive Officer Howard Burnett established a tool for connecting with parents and all stakeholders interested in building upon two consecutive years of significant academic gains.

The development process for the fiscal year 2007 operating budget began with three public forums in October and November to receive public input on budget priorities. The Interim CEO proposed a \$1.5 billion operating budget to the Board of Education on December 15. The Board of Education will hold three additional public hearings in January and public work sessions on the budget in January and February. The school system online survey will record feedback on budget policies and priorities through January 19.

County residents are encouraged to review the "Quality Schools Program Strategic Plan" and the current school year budget for consideration when answering survey questions. The survey establishes an open forum to harness the public's interest in education and gain input on programs, identify needs, target areas for improvements and align priorities for the 2006-2007 school year.

There will be ongoing opportunities for public participation in the budget process through Board of Education work sessions and open forums scheduled for January 12 at Surrattsville High School in Clinton, January 17 at Rosaryville Elementary School in Upper Marlboro and January 18 at Largo High School in Upper Marlboro. All public forums begin at 7 p.m. Public comments are used during the creation of the budget document presented by the Board of Education to the County Executive for approval.

When logging on to the school system website, participants will be able to review the current year budget, including program improvements and provide feedback by answering a series of questions that include ranking programs in 12 areas as "high, medium or low" priorities. People will see a comparison of Prince George's County public schools to other jurisdictions with regard to needs, including teacher salaries, costs per pupil, test scores and more. There will also be space provided for general comments and to address specific areas that may not be covered in the survey.

*The Department is offering a reward of up to \$500 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes reported in the blotter. Citizens may anonymously report suspected drug activity by calling the Drug Tip Line at 301-507-6522.*

## A Review

# Christmas Band Concert Delights Community Center Audience

by James Giese

The Greenbelt Concert Band's annual holiday concert at the Greenbelt Community Center on Sunday, December 18 was well received by friends, family members and Greenbelters in attendance. Unlike previous concerts, the nearly 40-member band played from the floor of the gym rather than the stage, bringing about a greater feeling of closeness between the band and the audience.

Many band members wore Santa Claus hats for the holiday occasion. Six others had antlers and there were a halo, an ornament beret and one miniature stovepipe hat. As usual the band was conducted by Thomas Cherrix. Assistant Conductor Jim Moore directed the musicians in one number.

At first glance, the program, filled with traditional Christmas and Hanukkah music, seemed a repeat of those in previous years. In fact, however, many of the arrangements were new.

I found particularly interesting the sequential playing of three sleighing melodies, each representing a different type of conveyance. "Jingle Bells," this time arranged by Morton Gould, is light and peppy as it represents a one-horse open sleigh dashing through the snow. Mozart's "The Sleigh Ride" represents to me a rather large and heavy conveyance being trudged through the snow by many horses. LeRoy Anderson's "Sleigh Ride" fits in between, giving the impression of a sleigh pulled by two fine horses trotting through the snow.

Bandmember Joan Culpepper introduced each piece of music with interesting program notes. She said that "Jingle Bells" was originally written about going home for Thanksgiving, not Christmas. Livingston and Evans' "Silver Bells" was originally called "Tinker Bells" until the wife of one of them said that the chorus sounded funny singing "tinker bells, tinker bells." The Paul Yoder arrangement of this piece was intricate and different from what one usually hears. It also presented a challenge to the virtuosity of the musicians.

The band veered away from holiday music with "Marvin Hamlisch Showcase," an arrangement by Warren Barker of that composer's most popular tunes,

"The Entertainer" and "What I Did for Love."

It quickly returned to the holiday theme, however, with Gene Autry and Oakley Haldman's "Here Comes Santa Claus," which, of course, was the cue for Santa Claus, in full regalia, to enter the auditorium.

## Santa Arrives

"What a surprise!" exclaimed Cherrix. But to those who attend these concerts regularly, it really wasn't. Santa passed out candy canes to members of the audience and particularly to the kids present. Then Santa, who was really tuba player Ed Stepp, read Clement Moore's "The Night before Christmas," this time with the band playing a musical accompaniment written by Newell H. Long.

The Christmas program ended with an Eric Leidzen arrangement of Irving Berlin's "I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas." Unlike many arrangements that attempt to do all kinds of variations to a melody, this arrangement kept it pure and simple.

What good is a band without a march? The Concert Band concluded with Sousa's "Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company." While at first glance this doesn't seem like a holiday piece, Sousa ends the march with a rendition of "Auld Lang Syne," an appropriate way to end this concert.

After enjoying the hour-and-a-half performance by this talented amateur musical group that has been playing now for around 50 years, members of the audience left uplifted and fortified with the wonderful spirit of these holidays.

The Greenbelt Concert Band is supported by the City of Greenbelt Department of Recreation and rehearses on Mondays at the Community Center. Besides regular performances at city events such as the Independence Day fireworks, the band also performs for veterans groups, hospital patients and for civic and charitable activities. The band welcomes new members.

For information call Tom Cherrix at 301-552-1444 or General Manager David Clarke at 301-384-5674. The band also gladly accepts donations, grants or gifts.

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## Greenbelt Museum Is Close to Reaching \$100,000 Matching Grant Goal

by Jill St. John, Curator

Visitors to the Greenbelt Museum are continually amazed to discover Greenbelt, a thriving, walkable and cooperative community tucked away in the ever-expanding metropolitan Washington, D.C. area. For the past 18 years the Greenbelt Museum has been a gateway for visitors and residents alike to experience Greenbelt's beauty and rich history through tours of an original home, award-winning exhibits, public lectures, educational programs for children and walking tours.

In December 2003 the Greenbelt Museum applied for and received a challenge grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) for \$100,000. Over the past several years the museum has seen a dramatic increase in requests for special tours, educational programming and curriculum materials for schools. In response to this need, the museum applied for the challenge grant to establish an endowment to fund an Education/Volunteer Coordinator.

The NEH endowment will fund a permanent Education/Volunteer Coordinator ensuring that the museum will continue to provide exceptional educational programming for all visitors. The coordinator's duties will include training and managing the museum's many volunteers, scheduling tours and developing and implementing both on- and off-site educational programs for school groups.



**Curator Jill St. John is showing rapt children how to play marbles.**

The museum has until the end of July 2006 to raise the final \$15,000. Because this is a challenge grant every donation received will be matched dollar for dollar by the NEH, creating a \$200,000 endowment for the Education/Volunteer Coordinator position.

As a 501(c)3 organization, donations to the Friends of the Greenbelt Museum are fully tax deductible. For information about the NEH Challenge Grant or the Museum, contact the museum curator at 301-507-6582 or [museum@greenbeltdm.gov](mailto:museum@greenbeltdm.gov).



PHOTOS COURTESY OF GREENBELT MUSEUM

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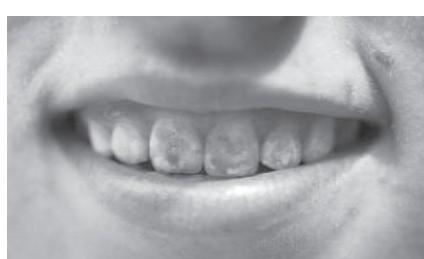
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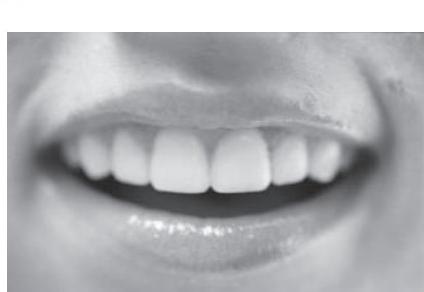
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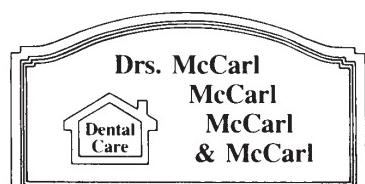


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## GAIL Has Adaptable Equipment Program

Beginning February 14 applications will be accepted for the GAIL Adaptable Equipment Program. The City of Greenbelt has partnered with GIVES, Green Ridge House and Greenbelt Homes, Inc., to offer Greenbelt residents assistance in receiving adaptable equipment for their homes. This new program will offer seniors and disabled participants a choice of two items from the following list: non-skid bath mat, toilet safety frame, raised toilet seat, handheld shower, tub grip bar, smoke detector, shower chair, shower transfer bench.

Items will be delivered and installed by community partners. Participants also have the option of installing items received themselves. The program will offer items to residents on a sliding scale fee. Residents at or below the Federal Poverty Line will receive the items for free. Currently, the Poverty Line is \$798 per month for an individual and \$1,070 per month for a couple. These guidelines are scheduled

to change on February 1. New guidelines will be available at that time. Residents will pay a sliding scale based on 25 percent increments. For example: residents with income of up to 25 percent above the poverty line will receive items at 25 percent of the cost. Residents with income 50 percent above the new guidelines will receive the items at 50 percent of the cost, etc.

Applicants must be residents of incorporated Greenbelt, be disabled adults or seniors 60 years of age or older and require the two items selected to help maintain their independence. Applicants will be required to show proof of gross income, bank statements and residency. Assets may not be greater than \$15,000 for a couple and \$10,000 for individuals. Assets do not include one's residence or automobile. For additional information about the program call the Greenbelt Assistance in Living Program at 301-474-8000 ext. 2012.

## Patuxent Research Refuge Programs

Programs at the National Wildlife Visitor Center located on Powder Mill Road between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and Rt. 197 include:

Owl Prowl on Sunday, January 8, 4:30 to 6 p.m., all ages. Explore the refuge at night while looking and listening for owls on this guided hike.

Bird Walk on Sunday, January 8, 8 to 10 a.m., all ages. Search for birds in several refuge habitats on this guided hike. Field guides and binoculars recommended.

Nature Tots: Furry Friends on Monday, January 9, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 1 to 2 p.m., ages 3 to 4. Introduce preschoolers to the marvelous world of mammals through stories and songs in this fun interactive program.

Nature Tots: Bright Eyed and Bushy Tailed on Saturday, January 14, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 1 to 2 p.m., ages 3 to 4. Squirrels are what it's all about in this fun interactive program for preschoolers.

Nature Hike on Sunday, January 29 from 1 to 2:30 p.m., ages 8 to 10. Explore Maryland's winter wonderland on this hands-on hike. Learn about animal signs and just who is out and about during these chilly months. Dress for the weather.

Programs taking place at North Tract located on Rt. 198 between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and Rt. 32 include:

"Pass the Energy Please" on Wednesday, January 18, 2 to 3 p.m., ages 5 to 7. Enjoy a time to relax and listen to a story - "Pass the Energy Please!" all while learning about the food chain. Discover how animals help humans to survive. This course is perfect for homeschoolers.

Owl Prowl on Sunday, January 22, 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m., all ages. Explore the refuge at night while looking and listening for owls on this guided hike.

Bird Walk on Sunday, January 22, 8 to 10 a.m., all ages. Search for birds in several refuge habitats on this guided hike. Field guides and binoculars recommended.

## Botanic Garden Offers Preschool Classes

Bring a preschooler (ages 3 to 5) to the U.S. Botanic Garden for free plant-related fun. Sign up for a one-month session and attend four different programs. February will be a repeat of the January programs. Each Wednesday session will include various activities which may include a story, songs, art activity or walk in the garden. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

The dates are: January 4, 11, 18 and 25 and February 1, 8, 15 and 22. All sessions are from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the Conservatory classroom. Pre-registration is required and may be made by calling 202-245-4523.

## "National Mall" Exhibit At Botanic Garden

The holidays are here and a train whistle is signaling the arrival of visitors to Washington. This year the National Mall in miniature will be adorned in poinsettias and magically contained within the Conservatory's Garden Court through the craft and genius of garden train designer Paul Busse. Don't miss this holiday train exhibit at the Botanic Garden through January 8.

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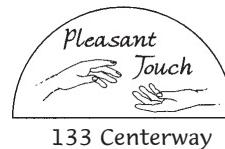
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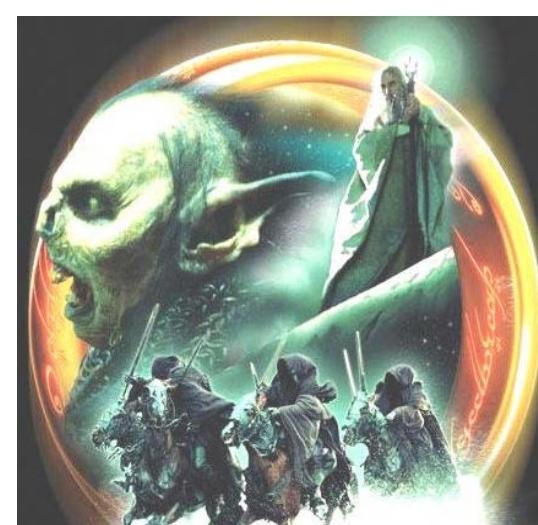
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